

News Release

Mammoth Community Water District
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MCWD Reminds Customers to Prepare Their Water Systems for Winter

Freezing temperatures can result in damage to water systems. It is important that MCWD customers properly prepare to protect their property.

Mammoth Lakes, California – October 3, 2019 – As the weather cools, the Mammoth Community Water District (District) would like to remind customers to winterize their irrigation systems and properly prepare their property for another Eastern Sierra winter. Cold temperatures can cause pipes to freeze and crack or burst. Damaged pipes can be expensive to repair, cause major property damage and waste water. Customers should take time in the fall to ensure their property is ready for winter.

“Leaks caused by broken pipes as a result of freezing can vary widely in size, but it is not uncommon to see over 1,000 gallons per hour” say Karen Bedow, Administrative Analyst for the District’s Maintenance Department. “If the leak is inside of the house, an enormous amount of damage can be suffered over a very short period of time.”

The District recommends that customers take the following precautions to protect their property:

- Properly WINTERIZE your irrigation system BEFORE freezing temperatures occur.
- LOCATE and TEST your household water shutoff valve.
 - Shutoff valves should be easily accessible, even with heavy snow loads.
- Confirm that the District has accurate contact information for your account.
 - If you have a property manager or reliable contact in Mammoth, supply that information to the District to allow for speedy communication.
- Ensure that there is always a contact in Mammoth with access to your property.
- Sign up for the District’s FREE customer portal, WaterSmart, at <https://mcwd.watersmart.com/index.php/welcome> to receive alerts and notifications regarding water use at your property.
- Remember heat tape and electric heaters do not work when the power is out. Have a backup plan in case of a power outage.

“The District encourages customers to be proactive about preparing their property for winter by taking these precautions, especially with the ongoing Public Safety Power Shutoffs” states Mark Busby, General Manager. “District staff is actively preparing our infrastructure for the coming season and is available to answer questions.”

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MCWD provides water and wastewater utility service to the Town of Mammoth Lakes and surrounding areas. MCWD strives to provide reliable, affordable utility service to our customers and to conduct our operations in a manner reflecting our stewardship role. We encourage our customers to practice responsible use of our limited water resources, and to take advantage of the information and services available to support this goal.



Glen Van Orsdol, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator shoveling snow at the Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant in 2017.